

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Makoto OKADA et al.

Group Art Unit:

Serial No.:

Examiner:

Filed: March 21, 2001

For: OBJECT COLLABORATION APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee for and examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please AMEND the claims in accordance with the following:

21. (AS ONCE AMENDED HEREIN) The object collaboration apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein the object collaboration relation presentation portion displays the objects as icons, displays the object collaboration relations as link information between the icons, and visualizes objects and organized object collaboration relations graphically.

22. (AS ONCE AMENDED HEREIN) The object collaboration apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein the object collaboration relation presentation portion presents the object collaboration relations as a table.

23. (AS ONCE AMENDED HEREIN) The object collaboration apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein the object collaboration relation presentation portion expresses the input message pattern information and the output message pattern information as tags, and displays the object collaboration relations with a programming language including these tags.

24. (AS ONCE AMENDED HEREIN) The object collaboration apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein the object collaboration relation presentation portion includes an object collaboration information inquiry function for inquiring object collaboration information of each of the objects; an object collaboration information gathering function for gathering object collaboration information of the objects, which is given by the objects in response to an inquiry to the objects; an object collaboration relation assembly function for assembling information of the object collaboration relations of all objects from the gathered object collaboration information of the objects; and an object collaboration relation presentation function for presenting the assembled object collaboration relations.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to further prosecution of this application by placing same in better form, including eliminating all multiple dependencies from the claims. Accordingly, entry of the Preliminary Amendment and favorable examination are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

By:



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

21. (ONCE AMENDED) The object collaboration apparatus according to Claim 19 [or 20], wherein the object collaboration relation presentation portion displays the objects as icons, displays the object collaboration relations as link information between the icons, and visualizes objects and organized object collaboration relations graphically.

22. (ONCE AMENDED) The object collaboration apparatus according to Claim 19 [or 20], wherein the object collaboration relation presentation portion presents the object collaboration relations as a table.

23. (ONCE AMENDED) The object collaboration apparatus according to Claim 19 [or 20], wherein the object collaboration relation presentation portion expresses the input message pattern information and the output message pattern information as tags, and displays the object collaboration relations with a programming language including these tags.

24. (ONCE AMENDED) The object collaboration apparatus according to Claim 19 [or 20], wherein the object collaboration relation presentation portion includes an object collaboration information inquiry function for inquiring object collaboration information of each of the objects; an object collaboration information gathering function for gathering object collaboration information of the objects, which is given by the objects in response to an inquiry to the objects; an object collaboration relation assembly function for assembling information of the object collaboration relations of all objects from the gathered object collaboration information of the objects; and an object collaboration relation presentation function for presenting the assembled object collaboration relations.